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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Commissioner for Patents, via the EFS pursuant to 37 CFR \$1.50 on the below date:

Date: March 23, 200

Name: Barbara A. LaBarge Signature:

PATENT

Case No.: 10690/014

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appl. of: Johan Pieter de Wet, et al.

Appln. No.:

10/549,767

Filed:

April 3, 2006

For:

EXTRACTION OF

OXYGENATES FROM A HYDROCARBON STREAM

Attorney Docket No: 10690/014

Examiner: Nguyen, Tam M.

Art Unit: 1797

Conf. No. 1220

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MAIL STOP RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the final Office Action mailed October 24, 2008, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.